



CITY OF AKRON, OHIO
POLICE DIVISION
AUGUSTUS A. HALL, CHIEF OF POLICE

NUMBER P-2009-003	EFFECTIVE DATE December 23, 2009	RESCINDS P-2007-003 Issued 12-31-07
SUBJECT Chemical Defense Spray Procedure		ISSUING AUTHORITY Chief Augustus A. Hall

I. POLICY

Chemical defense spray shall only be used in situations to effect an arrest, apprehend or subdue a combatant or resisting individual, and for the protection of oneself or another.

II. PROCEDURE

A. OPERATION

1. An officer will take into consideration factors such as proximity of other officers and wind direction.
2. Spray the product into the face of the suspect.
 - a. A spray of only one or two seconds may cause the person to rapidly close his eyes.
 - b. If there are no noticeable effects after a five-second spray, the unit should be put away and a secondary plan of action initiated.

B. DECONTAMINATION

1. In most cases, only exposure to air or cool water is needed.
2. The person should be advised not to rub the affected area.
3. No creams or lotions should be applied.
4. The person should be monitored for breathing problems.
5. If the person exhibits an unusual reaction or requests medical treatment, the officer shall seek medical attention for the person.
6. Under most circumstances the affected person should sit or stand once they are noncombative as this will make breathing easier.

C. REQUIREMENTS

1. No officer shall carry or use chemical defense spray until such time as the officer has successfully completed an authorized training session. The chemical defense spray issued by the department are the only units authorized to be carried or used by an officer.
2. Each officer is responsible for keeping his unit clean and in good working order. If the chemical spray does not function properly then place the spray into a clear bag and send it to the Training Bureau. Attach a note explaining how it is malfunctioning.
3. There will be no attempt by an officer to alter or repair the unit. If the unit is inoperable, an officer will notify his supervisor and obtain a replacement from the Commissary.
4. A supervisor shall be notified of an incident in which an officer uses the chemical defense spray.
5. In all situations where chemical defense spray is used, a Use of Force Report will be completed to include:
 - a. What precipitated the use?
 - b. What was the extent and duration of the use?
 - c. What were the results from the use?

D. Chemical defense spray may not be used:

1. As an investigative tool to threaten or attempt to gain information from a person.
2. Against a person already in custody unless physical resistance must be overcome.
3. Intentionally to an open wound.
4. As retaliation for physical or verbal abuse.

By Order Of,



Augustus A. Hall
Chief of Police

Date 12-10-09